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Docket No.: 1739-0184PUS1
(PATENT)

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Patent Application of:
Klaus KRUCKENHAUSER et al.

Application No.: 10/580,274

Confirmation No.: N/A

Filed: May 25, 2006

Art Unit: N/A

For: VACUUM EXTRACTION UNIT FOR A
DEVICE USED TO STRUCTURE THE
SURFACE OF A WORKPIECE BY MEANS OF
RADIATION

Examiner: Not Yet Assigned

L E T T E R

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

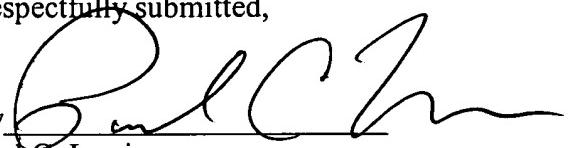
Sir:

Subsequent to the filing of the above-identified application on May 25, 2006, attached hereto is an English Translation of the International Preliminary Report on Patentability issued by the International Bureau on behalf of the International Searching Authority. Please make this document of record for the above-identified application.

If necessary, the Commissioner is hereby authorized in this, concurrent, and future replies, to charge payment or to credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 02-2448 for any additional fees required under 37 C.F.R. § 1.16 or under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17; particularly, extension of time fees.

Dated: December 7, 2006

Respectfully submitted,

By 
Paul C. Lewis

Registration No.: 43,368
BIRCH, STEWART, KOLASCH & BIRCH, LLP
8110 Gatehouse Road
Suite 100 East
P.O. Box 747
Falls Church, Virginia 22040-0747
(703) 205-8000
Attorney for Applicant

Attachment(s)

From the INTERNATIONAL BUREAU

PCT

NOTIFICATION OF TRANSMITTAL
OF COPIES OF TRANSLATION
OF THE INTERNATIONAL PRELIMINARY REPORT
ON PATENTABILITY
(CHAPTER I OR CHAPTER II
OF THE PATENT COOPERATION TREATY)
(PCT Rules 44bis.3(c) and 72.2)

To:

WAGNER, Bernhard, Peter
Ter Meer, Steinmeister & Partner
Mauerkircherstr. 45
81679 München
ALLEMAGNE

GANGEN
TER MEER · STEINMEISTER & PARTNER

15. NOV. 2006

| | |
|---|--|
| Date of mailing (day/month/year) 09 November 2006 (09.11.2006) | |
| Applicant's or agent's file reference STK 63 EP - Wa/ki | IMPORTANT NOTIFICATION |
| International application No. PCT/EP2004/004788 | International filing date (day/month/year) 05 May 2004 (05.05.2004) |
| Applicant STORK PRINTS AUSTRIA GMBH et al | |

1. Transmittal of the translation to the applicant.

- The International Bureau transmits herewith a copy of the English translation of the international preliminary report on patentability (Chapter I).
- The International Bureau transmits herewith a copy of the English translation of the international preliminary report on patentability (Chapter II).

2. Transmittal of the copy of the translation to the designated or elected Offices.

The International Bureau notifies the applicant that copies of that translation have been transmitted to the following designated or elected Offices requiring such translation:

KR

The following designated or elected Offices, having waived the requirement for such a transmittal at this time, will receive copies of that translation from the International Bureau only upon their request:

AE, AG, AL, AM, AP, AT, AU, AZ, BA, BB, BG, BR, BW, BY, BZ, CA, CH, CN, CO, CR, CU, CZ, DE, DK, DM, DZ, EA, EC, EE, EG, EP, ES, FI, GB, GD, GE, GH, GM, HR, HU, ID, IL, IN, IS, JP, KE, KG, KP, KZ, LC, LK, LR, LS, LT, LU, LV, MA, MD, MG, MK, MN, MW, MX, MZ, NA, NI, NO, NZ, OA, OM, PG, PH, PL, PT, RO, RU, SC, SD, SE, SG, SK, SL, SY, TJ, TM, TN, TR, TT, TZ, UA, UG, US, UZ, VC, VN, YU, ZA, ZM, ZW

3. Reminder regarding translation into (one of) the official language(s) of the elected Office(s).

The applicant is reminded that, where a translation of the international application must be furnished to an elected Office, that translation must contain a translation of any annexes to the international preliminary report on patentability (Chapter II).

It is the applicant's responsibility to prepare and furnish such translation directly to each elected Office concerned within the applicable time limit (Rule 74.1). See Volume II of the PCT Applicant's Guide for further details.

| | |
|---|--|
| The International Bureau of WIPO 34, chemin des Colombettes 1211 Geneva 20, Switzerland | Authorized officer Yolaine Cussac |
| Faxsimile No. +41 22 338 82 70 | Faxsimile No. +41 22 338 82 70 |

TRANSLATION

PATENT COOPERATION TREATY

PCT

INTERNATIONAL PRELIMINARY REPORT ON PATENTABILITY
(Chapter II of the Patent Cooperation Treaty)

(PCT Article 36 and Rule 70)

| | | | |
|---|---|---|-----------------------|
| Applicant's or agent's file reference STK 63 EP - Wa/ki | FOR FURTHER ACTION | | See Form PCT/IPEA/416 |
| International application No. PCT/EP2004/004788 | International filing date (day/month/year) 05.05.2004 | Priority date (day/month/year) 27.11.2003 | |
| International Patent Classification (IPC) or national classification and IPC B41C1/05, B41C1/18, B23K26/14, B23K26/08 | | | |
| Applicant STORK PRINTS AUSTRIA GMBH | | | |

| |
|---|
| 1. This report is the international preliminary examination report, established by this International Preliminary Examining Authority under Article 35 and transmitted to the applicant according to Article 36. |
| 2. This REPORT consists of a total of 4 sheets, including this cover sheet. |
| 3. This report is also accompanied by ANNEXES, comprising: |
| a. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> (<i>sent to the applicant and to the International Bureau</i>) a total of 10 sheets, as follows: |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> sheets of the description, claims and/or drawings which have been amended and are the basis for this report and/or sheets containing rectifications authorized by this Authority (see Rule 70.16 and Section 607 of the Administrative Instructions). |
| <input type="checkbox"/> sheets which supersede earlier sheets, but which this Authority considers contain an amendment that goes beyond the disclosure in the international application as filed, as indicated in item 4 of Box No. I and the Supplemental Box. |
| b. <input type="checkbox"/> (<i>sent to the International Bureau only</i>) a total of (indicate type and number of electronic carrier(s)) containing a sequence listing and/or tables related thereto, in computer readable form only, as indicated in the Supplemental Box Relating to Sequence Listing (see Section 802 of the Administrative Instructions). |
| 4. This report contains indications relating to the following items: |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Box No. I Basis of the report |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Box No. II Priority |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Box No. III Non-establishment of opinion with regard to novelty, inventive step and industrial applicability |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Box No. IV Lack of unity of invention |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Box No. V Reasoned statement under Article 35(2) with regard to novelty, inventive step or industrial applicability; citations and explanations supporting such statement |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Box No. VI Certain documents cited |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Box No. VII Certain defects in the international application |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Box No. VIII Certain observations on the international application |

| | |
|---|-----------------------------------|
| Date of submission of the demand | Date of completion of this report |
| Name and mailing address of the IPEA/EP | Authorized officer |
| Facsimile No. | Telephone No. |

INTERNATIONAL PRELIMINARY REPORT ON PATENTABILITY

International application No.

PCT/EP2004/004788

Box No. I Basis of the report

1. With regard to the language, this report is based on the international application in the language in which it was filed, unless otherwise indicated under this item.

This report is based on translations from the original language into the following language _____ which is the language of a translation furnished for the purposes of:

- international search (Rule 12.3 and 23.1(b))
- publication of the international application (Rule 12.4)
- international preliminary examination (Rule 55.2 and/or 55.3)

2. With regard to the elements of the international application, this report is based on (replacement sheets which have been furnished to the receiving Office in response to an invitation under Article 14 are referred to in this report as "originally filed" and are not annexed to this report):

the international application as originally filed/furnished
 the description:

pages 1-3, 8-19 as originally filed/furnished
 pages* 4, 4a, 5-7 received by this Authority on 22.09.2005 with letter of 22.09.2005
 pages* _____ received by this Authority on _____

the claims:

nos. _____ as originally filed/furnished
 nos.* _____ as amended (together with any statement) under Article 19
 nos.* 1-24 received by this Authority on 22.09.2005 with letter of 22.09.2005
 nos.* _____ received by this Authority on _____

the drawings:

sheets 1/9-9/9 as originally filed/furnished
 sheets* _____ received by this Authority on _____
 sheets* _____ received by this Authority on _____

a sequence listing and/or any related table(s) – see Supplemental Box Relating to Sequence Listing.

3. The amendments have resulted in the cancellation of:

the description, pages _____
 the claims, nos. _____
 the drawings, sheets/figs _____
 the sequence listing (specify): _____
 any table(s) related to sequence listing (specify): _____

4. This report has been established as if (some of) the amendments annexed to this report and listed below had not been made, since they have been considered to go beyond the disclosure as filed, as indicated in the Supplemental Box (Rule 70.2(c)).

the description, pages _____
 the claims, nos. _____
 the drawings, sheets/figs _____
 the sequence listing (specify): _____
 any table(s) related to sequence listing (specify): _____

* If item 4 applies, some or all of those sheets may be marked "superceded."

INTERNATIONAL PRELIMINARY REPORT ON PATENTABILITY

International application No.

PCT/EP2004/004788

| Box No. V | Reasoned statement under Article 35(2) with regard to novelty, inventive step or industrial applicability; citations and explanations supporting such statement | | |
|--|---|------|-----|
| 1. Statement | | | |
| Novelty (N) | Claims | 1-24 | YES |
| | Claims | | NO |
| Inventive step (IS) | Claims | 1-24 | YES |
| | Claims | | NO |
| Industrial applicability (IA) | Claims | 1-24 | YES |
| | Claims | | NO |
| 2. Citations and explanations (Rule 70.7) | | | |
| 1. Claim 1: | | | |
| 1.1 Prior art: | | | |
| <p>DE-A-103 05 258, which is cited in the description, discloses a vacuum unit for a device that is used to engrave a relief in a surface of a workpiece, said unit having all the features of the first two paragraphs of independent claim 1.</p> | | | |
| 1.2 Problem: | | | |
| <p>Designing another vacuum unit of the known type with which unit the abraded and decomposition products that form during the machining of cylindrical workpieces, such as aerosols, vapor, fumes and gases, can be prevented from being released into the environment.</p> | | | |
| 1.3 Solution: | | | |
| <p>The specific combination of all the features in claim 1, in particular, the specific arrangement of a C-shaped cover ring and the additional vacuum means circumferentially between the hood and an end of this ring according to the third paragraph</p> | | | |

INTERNATIONAL PRELIMINARY REPORT ON PATENTABILITY

International application No.

PCT/EP2004/004788

| Box No. V | Reasoned statement under Article 35(2) with regard to novelty, inventive step or industrial applicability; citations and explanations supporting such statement |
|-----------|---|
|-----------|---|

in the present claim 1, is neither described by nor obvious from the prior art, and an inventive step within the meaning of PCT Article 33 is therefore involved.

2. Claims 2 to 24:

Dependent claims 2 to 24 define advantageous embodiments of a vacuum unit, each embodiment having all the features of independent claim 1.